

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096461

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTAE DIA INFO ABU DHABI AMMAN DHAHRAN JIDDA
JERUSALEM KUWAIT LONDON MOSCOW PARIS TEL AVIV USUN USCINCEUR
FROM BEIRUT 18 MAY 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5775

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

EO 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PINS LE

SUB: INTERNAL SECURITY SITREP 21

SITREP 21

1. SITUATION AT 1430 Z QUIET IN BEIRUT AND COUNTRY AS
WHOLE. CURFEW LIFTED TODAY FROM 0600 TO 2000 LOCAL.

2. FOLLOWING 6- HOUR MEETING OF MIXED GOL- FEDAYEEN
COMMITTEE HERE MAY 17, IT WAS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED THAT
COMMITTEE' S DELIVERATIONS HAD ENDED WITH BOTH SIDES
" IN AGREEMENT ON THE VARIOUS QUESTIONS" AND THAT A
" HIGHER COORDINATION COMMITTEE" WOULD BE FORMED TO
SUPERVISE EXECUTION OF MEASURES AGREED UPON. ALTHOUGH
THERE IS TOTAL INFORMATION BLACKOUT ON TERMS OF NEW
ARRANGEMENT, WITH EVEN PRESS SPECULATION HEAVILY CENSORED,
WE UNDERSTAND FROM RELIABLE SOURCES THAT GOL SUCCEEDED
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IN OBTAINING UNDERTAKINGS FROM FEDAYEEN THAT GO BEYOND WHAT WE KNOW WERE PRES FRANGIE' S MINIMUM DEMANDS. APPEARS, MOREOVER, THAT INSTEAD OF NEW AGREEMENT IN FORMAL, " LEGAL" SENSE OF THAT TERM, LATEST UNDERSTANDING CONSISTS OF CERTAIN PROMISES RE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN (OR ACTIONS AVOIDED) BY EACH SIDE IN FUTURE, WITH PRECISE DETAILS OF SUCH MEASURES STILL TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN ARMY AND FEDAYEEN.

3. WITH NEITHER SA' IQA NOR PFLP/ GC REPRESENTED ON MIXED COMMITTEE, IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THOSE ORGANIZATIONS WILL ALLOW THEMSELVES BE BOUND BY LATEST UNDERTAKINGS. EVEN IF THEY DO, THERE IS ALWAYS LIKELIHOOD THAT FEDAYEEN WILL TRY CHEAT WHEN IT COMES TO CARRYING OUT WHAT THEY HAVE PROMISED. PROOF OF VIABILITY OF NEW " AGREEMENT" WIL THUS BE FOUND IN ITS EXECUTION, AND WE HEARTENED BY SIGNS THAT THIS TIME GOL SEEMS ALIVE TO NEED FOR CLOSE SUPERVISION TO ENSURE FEDAYEEN UNDERTAKINGS ARE PROPERLY IMPLEMENTED.

4. AS POSSIBLE INDICATION OF FEDAYEEN LEADERSHIP' S INTENTIONS, AT LEAST IN SHORT TERM, Wafa BULLETIN LAST NIGHT CARRIED APPEAL BY PLO EX COMM TO ALL FEDAYEEN, URGING THEM ABIDE FULLY BY NEW " AGREEMENT" AND MAINTAIN " COMPLETE DISCIPLINE." ON OTHER HAND, MIMEOGRAPHED BULLETINS REPORTED CIRCULATING IN CAMPS WHICH URGE VIGILANCE AND ARGUE AGAINST DISARMING CAMPS OR OTHERWISE FALLING INTO JORDAN- TYPE " TRAP."

5. RE FORMATION OF NEW GOVT, WE NOTE PARLIAMENT SPEAKER KAMEL AL ASSAD DECLARED, AFTER 2- HOUR MEETING WITH PRES FRANGIE LAST NIGHT, THAT NEW CABINET WOULD PROBABLY BE FORMED BY WEEKEND OR SHORTLY AFTER. SPECULATION RIFE THAT AMIN AL HAFEZ WILL BE PERSUADED WITHDRAW HIS RESIGNATION AND STAY ON AS PRIMIN, WITH PSSIBILITY HIS CABINET WOULD BE RESHUFFLED -- PERHAPS EVEN TO POINT OF INCLUDING KAMAL JUMBLATT AS MININT.

6. AIRPORT STILL OPEN AND OPERATING NORMALLY. SCHOOLS REMAIN CLOSED. EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND DEPENDENTS STILL SAFE, AS ARE MEMBERS AMERICAN COMMUNITY (ALTHOUGH ONE AMERICAN RESIDENT WAS ARRESTED LAST NIGHT FOR CURFEW
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VILATION.)
HOUGHTON
UNQUOTE RUSH

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